United Nations A/54/274 - E/1999/116

General Assembly
Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
31 July 1999

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Items 48 and 148 of the provisional agenda*

The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti

Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti

Economic and Social Council
Substantive session of 1999
Geneva, 5–30 July 1999
Agenda item 7
Coordination, programme and other questions

Letter dated 31 July 1999 from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/4 of 7 May 1999 in which the Council decided to create an Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti with the mandate of submitting to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 recommendations on how to ensure that international community assistance to the efforts to support the Government of Haiti in achieving sustainable development was adequate, coherent, well coordinated and effective.

The Advisory Group was composed of the Permanent Representatives of Indonesia (who acted as Chairman), Brazil, Latvia and Mauritius and of the Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada. Haitian authorities were consulted by the Advisory Group at all stages of the preparation of its report.

It is now my privilege to inform you that the Economic and Social Council, based on the report presented by the Advisory Group (E/1999/103) at its substantive session of 1999, recently held in Geneva, adopted resolution 1999/11 of 27 July 1999, in which the Council confirmed the essence of all of the Advisory Group's recommendations, including recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly, as well as requests addressed to the Secretary-General and the different components of the United Nations system. In that resolution, the Council, *inter alia*, called upon the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to develop on a priority basis a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti in such areas as education, peace-building, poverty eradication, social integration, productive

* A/54/150.

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employment, trade, durable recovery and sustainable development and recommended that the long-term development programme of support for Haiti address the issues of capacity-building of governmental institutions, especially in areas such as governance, the promotion of human rights, the administration of justice, the electoral system, law enforcement, police training, and other areas of social and economic development.

I should like to draw your attention to the recommendations made to the General Assembly in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/11, in particular in paragraph 8, to review all aspects of the mandate and operations of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti and to consider renewing the mandate of the United Nations component of the Mission; in paragraph 10, to consider devising a United Nations special training and technical assistance programme for the Haitian National Police; and in paragraph 11, to consider requesting the Secretary-General to continue his good offices in Haiti through his Representative and to maintain the existence of the office there headed by him, which would also have the responsibility of managing any new civilian mission mandated by the United Nations.

I trust that this contribution by the Economic and Social Council will serve to strengthen the continued resolve of the United Nations to support Haiti, supplementing the General Assembly's own efforts in that regard, and to enhance the cooperation between two of our main organs.

(*Signed*) F. Paolo Fulci